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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/826,908

04/19/2004

Kazuei Yoshioka

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05/23/2008

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

KUMAR, KALYANA VENKA K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3653

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/23/2008

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/826,908	<b>Applicant(s)</b> YOSHIOKA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> KALYANA VENKATESHWAR KUMAR	<b>Art Unit</b> 3653	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/19/2004, 10/15/2004, 9/24/2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |



## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/26/2008 has been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Izawa et al (USP 6,264,556 B1)** in view of **Blad et al (US Pub 2002/0063035 A1)** and in further view of **Cassidy et al (USP 5,615,625)**. Regarding claims 1 and 2, Izawa discloses all the limitations of the claim including a money validation machine comprising a money validation unit (12), a detachable money storage unit (110), wherein the money validation unit is electrically connected to the detachable money storage unit and supplies both electric power and a money

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information signal (col. 5, lines 52-55), the money storage unit including a lid with a lid lock/unlock unit (170 and 172), but Izawa does not disclose a money validation unit and a money storage unit having two connection terminals, a first power-signal connection configured to transmit, as a pulse signal, both electric power and a money information signal representing information on the money to be stored in the money storage unit; and a second power-signal connection configured as a ground, wherein when the money validation unit is electrically connected to the money storage unit the money validation unit supplies both the electric power and the money information signal to the detachable money storage unit via the first power-signal connection when the money validation unit is electrically connected to the money storage unit representing information on the money to be stored in the money storage unit to the money storage unit via two power signal connection.

4. Blad teaches a money validation unit and a money storage unit having two connection terminals, a first power-signal connection configured to transmit, as a pulse signal (paragraph 0045, line 15, the signal has an interval timer and cycle counter functions which are inherently pulsing), both electric power and a money information signal representing information on the money to be stored in the money storage unit (paragraph 0045, lines 9 and 17-20); and a second power-signal connection configured as a ground (paragraph 0045, line 9), wherein when the money validation unit is electrically connected to the money storage unit the money validation unit supplies both the electric power and the money information signal to the detachable money storage unit via the first power-signal connection when the money validation unit is electrically

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connected to the money storage unit representing information on the money to be stored in the money storage unit to the money storage unit via two power signal connection for the purpose of a wide tolerance being available for inserting a money storage unit into a money validation machine still maintaining a reliable electrical connection between the terminals (paragraph 0048, lines 16-18). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Izawa's money validation machine to have two connection terminals on the money validation and storage units, as taught by Blad, for the purpose of a wide tolerance being available for inserting a money storage unit into a money validation machine still maintaining a reliable electrical connection between the terminals.

5. Further, Izawa/Blad does not disclose a lid lock/unlock unit using electric power and controlled to lock and unlock. Cassidy teaches a lid lock/unlock unit using electric power and controlled to lock and unlock for the purpose of added security (col. 4, lines 9-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Izawa/Blad's money validation machine to include an electronic lock, as taught by Cassidy, for the purpose of added security.

6. Regarding claim 3 and 7, Izawa discloses all the limitations of the claims, including a validation side communication control unit, a validation side receiving unit (col. 3, lines 59-61), a storage side receiving unit, a storage side communication control (col. 5, lines 52-55) and a current lead-in unit (136). Izawa does not disclose a storage side power supply unit and a validation side power supply unit. Blad teaches a storage

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side power supply unit (102) and a validation side power supply unit (128) for the purpose of preserving memory contents even when the chip is removed from a power source for extended periods of time (paragraph 0045, lines 25-27). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Izawa's money validation machine to have a validation side power supply unit and a storage side power supply unit, as taught by Blad, for the purpose of preserving memory contents even when the chip is removed from a power source for extended periods of time.

7. Regarding claim 16, Izawa discloses all the limitations of the claim, but Izawa does not disclose a money storage unit that is able to be connected to a collection device other than the money validation unit. Blad further teaches the money storage unit is able to be connected to a collection device other than the money validation unit for the purpose of being connected to a mobile cart so that money storage units may be systematically removed from successive gaming machines (paragraph 0056, lines 21-24). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Izawa's money validation machine to be able to be connected to other collection devices, as taught by Blad, for the purpose of being connected to a mobile cart so that money storage units may be systematically removed from successive gaming machines.

8. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izawa in view of Blad and in further view of Cassidy (Izawa/Blad/Cassidy) as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of **Bryant et al (USP 6,513,639 B1)**.

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9. Regarding claim 4, Izawa/Blad/Cassidy disclose all the limitations of the claim, but Izawa/Blad does not disclose a power supply unit comprising a first diode, a capacitor, a second diode, and a three-terminal regulator. Bryant teaches power supply unit comprising a first diode (46), a capacitor (22), a second diode (22), and a three-terminal regulator (54) for the purpose of converting AC to DC voltage (col. 4, line 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Izawa/Blad/Cassidy's power supply unit, as taught by Bryant, for the purpose of converting AC to DC voltage.

10. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izawa/Blad/Cassidy as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of **Lamah (USP 5,788,046)**.

11. Regarding claim 5, Izawa/Blad/Cassidy discloses all the limitations of the claim, but Izawa/Blad/Cassidy does not disclose a photo-coupler having an LED, a phototransistor, and an impedance element. Lamah teaches a photo-coupler having an LED (204a-e), a phototransistor (205a-e), and an impedance element (431-435) for the purpose of permitting coins of any currencies to be recognized (col. 1, lines 50-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Izawa/Blad/Cassidy's money validation machine with a photo-coupler having an LED, a phototransistor, and an impedance element, as taught by Lamah, for the purpose of permitting coins of any currencies to be recognized.



12. Claims 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izawa/Blad/Cassidy as applied to claims 3 and 7 above, and further in view of **Handelman et al (US Pub 2002/0048067 A1)**.

13. Regarding claims 8-13, Izawa/Blad/Cassidy discloses all the limitations of the claims, but Izawa/Blad/Cassidy does not disclose storage side and validation side encoding and decoding of a signal from RZ code format to NRZ code format and storage side and validation side encoding and decoding of a signal from NRZ code format to RZ code format. Handelman teaches storage side and validation side encoding and decoding of a signal from RZ code format to NRZ code format and storage side and validation side encoding and decoding of a signal from NRZ code format to RZ code format (paragraph 0172) for the purpose of converting RZ signal samples into NRZ signal samples (paragraph 0175, lines 4-6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Izawa/Blad/Cassidy's money validation machine to include storage side and validation side encoding and decoding, as taught by Handelman, for the purpose of converting RZ signal samples into NRZ signal samples.

14. Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izawa/Blad/Cassidy as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of **Battrick (USP 3,806,651)**.

15. Regarding claims 14 and 15, Izawa/Blad/Cassidy disclose all the limitations of the claims but, Izawa/Blad/Cassidy does not disclose the money storage unit including a power polarity normalization unit comprising a diode bridge. Battrick discloses a power

polarity normalization unit comprising a diode bridge for the purpose of insuring the same voltage polarity is always applied to the electronic circuitry of the coin signaling circuit (col. 3, lines 64-68 and col. 4, lines 1-2). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Izawa/Blad/Cassidy's money storage unit with a power polarity normalization unit, as taught by Battrick, for the purpose of insuring the same voltage polarity is always applied to the electronic circuitry of the coin signaling circuit.

### ***Response to Arguments***

16. Applicant's arguments filed 3/26/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

17. Regarding Applicant's argument, "However, Cassidy does not describe or suggest a lid lock/unlock unit that locks or unlocks the lid using the electric power received via the first power-signal connection," and, "However, Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use the ***first power-signal connection*** for both powering the electronic lock and for providing a money information signal," the Examiner disagrees. The Examiner asserts that the first power-signal connection would be capable of both powering the electronic lock (Cassidy, col. 4, lines 9-13) and providing a money information signal (Blad, paragraph 0045, line 9, elements 104) as taught by the Cassidy and Blad references.

***Conclusion***

18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kalyan Kumar whose telephone number is 571-272-8102. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:00AM-3:30PM.

19. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Mackey can be reached on 571-272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

20. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Examiner

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